

2015 *Click It or Ticket* Fact Sheet



- Officers from police departments, sheriff's offices and Michigan State Police will focus on seat belt enforcement during the *Click It Or Ticket* campaign May 18-31.
- The mobilization is about saving lives, not just writing tickets. Buckling up can reduce the risk of serious injury or death by 45 percent.
- For the first time, federal traffic safety funds are supporting extra enforcement in all 83 Michigan counties. Officers will conduct seat belt enforcement zones with strategically located enforcement marked by signs alerting motorists they are entering an enforcement area.
- Twenty people died in traffic crashes during the 2014 Memorial Day holiday period. Of those, seven were motorcyclists and nine were vehicle occupants, one of whom was not wearing a seat belt. (*Michigan State Police, Criminal Justice Information Center, MSP-CJIC*)
- In 2014, 188 people who died in traffic crashes in Michigan were not wearing their seat belts. Of those, 137 were male and 51 were female. (*MSP-CJIC*)
- Michigan's 2014 seat belt use rate is 93 percent, down from a record high of 98 percent in 2009. (*Wayne State Transportation Research Group*)
- Traffic enforcement is serious crime fighting. Past mobilization efforts have resulted in drunk driving arrests, stolen vehicle recoveries and numerous felony and misdemeanor warrant arrests.
- For some drivers, the threat of a ticket has proven to be a greater incentive to buckle up than the risk of death or life-altering injury.
- Michigan has a primary enforcement law which allows officers to stop motorists who are not buckled up. The fine and associated costs for unbuckled adults is \$65.
 - According to the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute, 2,659 lives have been saved since the law began in 2000.
- Michigan law requires drivers, front seat passengers and passengers 15 and younger in any seating position to be buckled up. Children must be in a car seat or booster seat until they are 8 years old or 4'9" tall, and children under 4 years old must be in the back seat.
- In 2013, there were 9,580 unbuckled passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes in the United States. (*National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, NHTSA*)
 - Nationally, there were 638 children 12 and younger killed in motor vehicle crashes. Of those fatalities, more than a third (38%) were unrestrained. (*NHTSA*)
 - Among young adults 18 to 34 years old killed in crashes, 61 percent were completely unrestrained—the highest percentage of all age groups. (*NHTSA*)